

to the wishes of the local authority which governs the airport, as well as the surrounding communities and local governments. The airport is not a federal facility, but is run locally and financed by the local taxpayers, who ought to have the say in this matter.

This airport is already named for a great President, George Washington. There are other, more appropriate landmarks and facilities that can be named for President Reagan. I support the naming of a new aircraft carrier, the USS Ronald Reagan. And I strongly approve of the recent christening of the new federal building in Washington after President Reagan. But we should not act, contrary to the principle of federalism, to name this airport after President Reagan, over the objection of local officials and the people they represent.

PENNSYLVANIA'S SCIENCE EDUCATION SUCCESS STORY

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 1998

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania's West Chester University, a pioneer teacher training institution, has been blazing new trails to lead students toward greater enthusiasm for math and the sciences. The vehicle for this effort? An Educational Center for Earth Observation Systems. March 11–13 this year, West Chester University will host the eleventh annual "Satellites and Education" Conference for teachers as part of this program. West Chester's innovative program has attracted thousands of elementary, middle and high school educators by focusing on inexpensive "hands on" classroom exercises that enable students to participate in actual satellite communications and earth observations.

While serving in the Pennsylvania State Legislature I was pleased to be an early advocate of this innovative experiment in educational leadership. I have also been proud to serve as Chairman of the Satellite Educators Association, an outgrowth of West Chester University's novel approach to science instruction composed of teachers and school system supporters across the nation.

Each year the University hosts its "Satellites and Education" Conference for teachers during Pennsylvania's "Spaces Satellite and Technology Week," an observance established by a Special Resolution of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

The tenth anniversary conference was attended by more than 300 students, educators, and federal and state scientists, from 25 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Finland, Indonesia and Japan. Enthusiastic sponsors and exhibitors were Lockheed-Martin, DuPont Aerospace, Hughes Aircraft Corp., National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Center for Rural PA, Pennsylvania Space Grant Consortium, Accu-Weather Inc., Analytical Graphics Inc., Aquila Systems Inc., Center for Image Processing in Education, Civil Air Patrol, Maryland Space Grant Consortium, Orbital Sciences Corporation, PCI Enterprises Inc., Sargent Welch, Satellite Educators Association, Service Argos, and The Wether Under-

ground. Keynote speaker at the 1997 conference was Dr. Mary Cleav, NASA Aeronaut who is now managing NASA's Sea WiFS Program. Exciting Ocean-color images for the Sea viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (Sea WiFS)—the first readily available ocean-color data in more than ten years—should play a major role in studying El Nino and other global warming research. Other speakers included Dr. Michael Hanes, former Dean of West Chester's School of Education and now president of Georgia Southwestern University; Helen Martin, President, Satellite Educators Association; Tom Pyke, Director of Project GLOBE, the international youth environmental study program; Dr. Ronald McPherson, President American Meteorological Society; Robert Winokur, NOAA Assistant Administrator in charge of the National Weather Service's 4.5 billion modernization program; Dr. Shelby Tilford, Chief Scientist, Orbital Sciences Corporation; Dr. Perry Samson, Director of the Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Science Program at the University of Michigan. The 1998 program will be equally outstanding. The day conference offers many workshop sessions where educators and government and industry experts exchange ideas, with students as kibitzers, to evaluate instructional materials, equipment and techniques. A popular feature of the conference is the distribution of dozens of door prizes useful to teachers. These have been contributed by supporting industries and other vendors including a complete Aquila system for receiving earth images from satellites.

Primary objects of these conferences are: To introduce educators to satellite and related technologies; to demonstrate equipment affordable to educators and help teachers employ them in the classroom; to examine successful programs for integration into math/science curricula; to provide mentorship and follow-up activities for teachers; to network locally and globally with educators who have successfully incorporated satellite applications into their curricula; and to conduct concurrent workshop sessions dealing with the Internet applications for various computer systems, as well as to show students how to assemble and operate satellite receiving stations.

I know my colleagues will applaud and join me as I offer congratulations to Dr. Madeleine Alser, President of West Chester University; Dr. Michael Hanes, President of Georgia Southwestern University; Nancy McIntyre, Director of the West Chester University's Educational Center for Earth Observation Systems; Helen Martin, President of the Satellite Educators Association; and sponsoring government agencies and corporations for their efforts to help young people, and especially to the many far-sighted educators who have participated over the years in this educational success story.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CAROL BARNES PIERCY

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clovis Unified School District teacher Carol Barnes Piercy for being recognized with the Presidential Award for Ex-

cellence in Teaching Mathematics. Carol Piercy is committed to her teachings and is very deserving of this honor.

The Presidential Award program was initiated in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan to encourage excellence in teaching math and science. In January, Clovis Unified School District teacher Carol Piercy received this award for her accomplishments in teaching. Ms. Piercy has an extensive educational background with a Bachelor of Science degree from Stanford University, a Master of Science degree from Oregon State University, and a teaching credential from California State University, Fresno.

Carol Piercy has held multiple leadership roles in the community during her career. A few of her many achievements include acting as Chairperson of the Mathematics Curriculum Committee from 1993–1994, as a Family Math Leader at the University of Berkeley in 1995, and as consultant for the Department of Defense Schools from 1995–1997.

As a speaker and presenter, Ms. Piercy has dedicated herself towards making a difference. She has participated in numerous presentations that include contributions to the Fresno County Office of Education during 1994, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Western Regional Office, and the California League of Middle Schools Conference in San Diego.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Carol Barnes Piercy for being honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics. It is the guidance and commitment shown by Ms. Piercy that should serve as a model for all teachers. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Carol Piercy many more years of success.

WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE HONORED

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today eleven African-American women of distinction are being honored as part of the Essex County, New Jersey, Hospital Center's Third Annual Afrikan Heritage Month celebration. The vision of Carter G. Woodson to set aside some time to remember and pay tribute to our history and its people is one for which we will always be grateful. I am especially proud of this group of women for it is representative of our families and our society as a whole when it comes to being prepared and accomplished.

The women being honored today are: Gail Thompson, Vice President of Design and Construction of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, our new \$165 million, 255,000 square foot theater building and infrastructure on 12 acres; Carolyn Wade, President of Communications Workers of America Local, the largest local in New Jersey which represents 9,000 dues-paying members in both the public and private sectors; Senator Wynona M. Lipman, distinguished by her tenure as the only African-American female state senator for 21 years; Dorothy E. Grisby, a representative of the National Black Nurses Association, a national organization with 42 chapters that works to provide quality health care; Miriam E. Ferguson, a community advocate is also Superintendent of Recreation and Culture for the